



Orange County Transportation Authority . 550 South Main Street . P.O. Box 14184 . Orange, California 92863-1584 . 714-560-OCTA (6282)

Meeting of May 9, 2011

OCTA Receives High Marks On Bus Safety Audit



In 2010, OCTA participated in the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) bus safety management audit, scoring a 97.5 percent.

The program was adopted in 2003 and serves as a form of self-regulation for the transportation industry.

The audit, comprised of 123 elements, covers areas such as accident reporting and investigation, safety inspections, emergency response planning, site security and risk management. Each of OCTA's division managers were interviewed by the auditors.

Based on audit findings, APTA noted several areas in which OCTA received exceptionally high marks and is seen as an industry leader, including:

- The comprehensive annual bus base inspections conducted under the direction of the board by the CEO and his executive staff
- OCTA's emergency response coordination with Transit Police Services and local emergency agencies for evacuation purposes
- An accident reduction team that records all accidents and plans safety campaigns for coach operators
- The Text-4-Next program which allows bus riders to receive the three upcoming bus arrival times sent to their cell phone

APTA's suggestions for improvements were to enhance customer safety information on OCTA's website and to conduct jobsite safety inspections for all contractors conducting business at OCTA facilities.

Measure M2 Progress Report Highlights Projects

The board was presented with the Measure M2 progress report for the January to March 2011. The report outlines progress on various transportation projects.

Railroad safety enhancements were completed in Orange, Anaheim and Tustin, with work beginning on railroad crossings in San Juan Capistrano and Santa Ana.

As for freeway improvements, construction began on the West County Connectors project.

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Also during this period, OCTA made \$56 million available to cities for streets and roads projects and is currently evaluating applications. In addition, signal light synchronization along four corridors moved into the second phase.

Negotiations got under way to acquire properties under the M2 Freeway Mitigation Program, designed to reduce the environmental impacts of freeway projects.

Sales tax estimates for the first quarter of calendar year 2011 came in higher than projected. During its 30-year lifespan, Measure M2 is projected to bring in \$15 billion.

Adjustments Made To Increase Metrolink Service And Day-Long Pass

As part of the Metrolink Service Expansion Program, six additional trips will operate between the Fullerton and Laguna Niguel / Mission Viejo Metrolink stations beginning this summer.

The number of additional trains is being lowered to meet current funding levels and construction schedules.



Metrolink's intra-county day pass will be \$7, instead of the \$6 promotional price, and is valid on Orange County Metrolink trains and OCTA buses.

CEO Meets First Quarter Goals

CEO Will Kempton provided the board with a first quarter progress report on the 2011 Chief Executive Officer Action Plan, which outlines his goals for the year.

The following are some first quarter milestones:

- March marked the closeout of Measure M1, the county's 20-year, half-cent sales tax, which has paved the way for \$4 billion in transportation improvements.
- The California Transportation Commission awarded Orange County \$138 million for rail, freeway, local road and freeway improvements
- The five-year Strategic Plan, which serves as the first step of performance-based management system, was adopted by the board and is moving forward
- The continuous-access carpool lane project on Costa Mesa Freeway



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(SR-55) was in the environmental phase

- The carpool lane project on the I-5 from Avenida Pico to San Juan Creek Road also was in the environmental phase
- Through the Breaking Down Barriers initiative, OCTA has been working with state and federal officials to try and expedite the project approval process

Moving forward, development of the 2011-12 fiscal year budget and the completion of the Transit System Study are among the CEO's priorities.